City Insight March 2013

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Dear Residents,

In May, you will have the opportunity to elect your district councilmember. You will also be able to cast votes

on 33 city charter amendment propositions.

The charter is our city's governing document. It establishes our form of government, its leadership, powers, and responsibilities. The charter, much like the Constitution, is by the people for the people. Only you, the voters, can make changes to it, so please plan to cast your votes.

In your next water bill, you will receive a voter guide that details

each of the 33 propositions. The guide will describe each one and explain what a vote for and a vote against each means. The guide is also available on our website.

I hope that you will find this information helpful as you decide how to cast your vote on each proposition.

It is always important to exercise your right to vote, and the upcoming municipal election is your opportunity to choose not only your district representation but also the structure of your city government. Please vote.

Dan Corbin, Mayor

CITY ELECTION

Election Day is May 11

Voting at **Precinct Polling Locations** 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Early Voting

Killeen City Hall & Killeen Community Center

April 29 & 30 May 3, 6, & 7 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

May 1 & 2 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Voting Districts have Changed go to

www.killeentexas.gov/council to see the new 2013 houndaries

USE CAUTION: CONSTRUCTION HAS BEGUN ON US HIGHWAY 190

Local and state officials broke ground on the long-awaited US Highway 190 expansion project February 26 marking the official start of construction.

The \$55 million Texas Department of Transportation project

will add one lane in each direction on US 190 from Fort Hood's Main Gate to W.S. Young Drive. The highway will then have a total of six lanes.

US 190 is the most heavily traveled roadway in Bell County carrying nearly 90,000 cars per day. That number is expected to more than double in the next 20 years, so the timing is right to begin expansion to improve safety and increase capacity.

The project is scheduled for completion in Fall 2015. All lanes are planned to remain open

during construction, so motorists are advised to use extra caution in and around the work zone for the duration of the project.

Speed limits on US 190 and its access roads will be lowered for the duration of the project.

Highway speeds will be reduced from 60 to 55 miles per hour. Access roads will be reduced from 45 to 40 miles per hour.

Pay particular attention to signage on your daily commute as construction crews, signs, and equipment will move throughout the long-term project.



KILLEEN UP! AT THE TEXAS TRASH-OFF

Keep Killeen Beautiful is organizing the local Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off Saturday, April 6, and they need your help to Killeen Up! our city.

Volunteers will meet at 8 am at the Killeen Community Center, 2201 E. Veterans Memorial Boulevard, before spreading out in groups to remove litter from roadsides, parks, and public spaces. After the Trash-Off, volunteers will gather back at the Center for lunch and prizes.

Last year, 450 volunteers in Killeen collected more than 6,500 pounds of trash to help Keep Texas Beautiful. The Trash-

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Kids grab your baskets, the city's free Easter Eggstravaganza is March 30 at the Killeen Athletic Complex!



The fun kicks off with the annual egg hunt. Boys and girls will be divided into groups to collect as many goodie-filled eggs as they can carry! The hunt starts at 11 am for kids ages 0-3, 11:30 am for kids ages 4-6, and noon for kids ages 7 & 8.

After the hunt, kids are invited to enjoy games, bouncies, and pictures with the Easter Bunny.

The Easter Eggstravaganza begins at 11 am at the Athletic Complex, 2201 E. Veterans Memorial Boulevard.

For more information contact Parks & Recreation at 501-8889.

Off is the single largest one-day clean up event in Texas with cities across the state participating.

Join hundreds of others in our community by volunteering your family, club, or group to participate.

For more information or to sign up, contact Volunteer Services at 501-7878.



City offices will be closed Friday, March 29 in observance of Good Friday.

FACEBOOK KEEPS YOU IN THE LOOP

It's a fine time of year to be in Killeen! Spring and summer are packed with great city programs, activities, and special events. Make sure you don't miss a thing: "Like" our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/KilleenTexas.

The page, which just celebrated its first birthday, is the best way to stay up to date on all the latest city happenings. Check out breaking news, upcoming event details, videos, photos, and useful links.

You can share with friends, send us your feedback, and get answers to questions about city business around the clock.

Let us keep you in the loop this



season and all year long. Log on to Facebook and... Like us today!

SPECIAL CURBSIDE TRASH COLLECTION

Take advantage of a special offer to get a jump on your spring cleaning. The city is offering free Saturday curbside collection of bulky trash items on designated days in the month of April.

Items such as brush, furniture, appliances, boxes, and car and pick-up truck tires up to 22 inches will be picked up at your curb in addition to your regular weekly pickup.

The city will <u>not</u> pick up household hazardous waste materials like pesticides, paint, oil, chemicals, or batteries. A full list is available on the city website. Also not accepted are large truck and tractor tires, rock, dirt, deceased animals, or liquid waste.

For questions about this special collection, please call Solid Waste at 501-7785.

Let's all do our part to Killeen Up! in April!

COLLECTION SCHEDULE:

Regular trash day Monday Special collection April 6

Regular trash day Special collection Tuesday April 13

Regular trash day Special collection Thursday April 20

Regular trash day Special collection Friday April 27

All trash should be placed curbside no earlier than 6 pm the Friday before and 7 am the Saturday of your scheduled special collection.

Killeen Up!

FUN FOR EVERYONE AT THE CELEBRATE KILLEEN FESTIVAL

Come enjoy free family fun at the annual Celebrate Killeen Festival April 25—27!

Attracting thousands of people each year, the Celebrate Killeen Festival features something for everyone. This year's event gets underway Thursday at 5 pm in downtown with food and live music at the Green Avenue Farmers Market, 717 N. 2nd Street.

On Friday, the fun moves to the Killeen Community Center, 2201 E. Veterans Memorial Boulevard. A concert begins at 8 pm at the

amphitheater. "Rock 'n Soul" group The GTOs will have you swaying to the hit songs you know and love.

Saturday begins at 8 am with the Celebrate Killeen 5K Run,



part of the CenTex Race Series. Activities throughout the day include a softball tournament, BBQ cook-off, car show, step competition, cultural performances, and a kids' fun zone with bouncies, a petting zoo, and more.

Saturday winds down with a movie in the park showing of *Iron Man 2* beginning at 8 pm on the amphitheater lawn.

You won't want to miss the Celebrate Killeen Festival! For a full schedule of activities, go to www.killeentexas.gov.

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN KILLEEN

The Texas Historical Commission has approved Downtown Killeen to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Killeen's historic downtown is the area from 4th Street to 8th Street and Avenue B to Avenue D, which has a high concentration of significant turn of the century and mid-century buildings. The area was nominated based on its historical significance to architecture, the community, and the military.

This national recognition of downtown's historical significance is an important piece of the area's revitalization. It gives national exposure and credibility to the oldest part of Killeen and opens doors to funding sources for revitalization and restoration.

Downtown Killeen is currently undergoing a major reconstruction project to make streets and sidewalks more attractive and usable. It will also bring the Andy K. Wells Hike & Bike Trail into Downtown. Both projects are scheduled for completion in a few short months.

For the latest Downtown Killeen in formation, go to www.killeentexas.gov/downtown.

CODE GREEN

As Spring approaches and we begin working in our homes and yards, the City of Killeen extends a reminder about yard maintenance.

Mow your grass. Grass and weeds will soon begin sprouting up in your yard, and city ordinance says that growth may not exceed 12 inches in height.

The homeowner or tenant is responsible for maintaining the

property from street curbs to the back of the property. He or she is also responsible for maintenance of any alley or right-of-way adjacent to the property.

To report a violation or for more information on this or other city codes, contact Code Enforcement at 501-7608.

We all have a part in making Killeen a better, more beautiful place to live.



We are in water conservation Stage 1—voluntary. Please do your part to ensure that you don't have leaks and are taking daily steps to prevent wasting water.

SUMMER FUN AT LIONS CLUB PARK

Why leave town when all the fun is right here? The Family Aquatics Center at Lions Club Park opens for the summer season Memorial Day Weekend!

Killeen's wildly popular water

park is the only one of its kind in the area. Three pools, four slides, and a climbing wall offer exciting activities for swimmers of all ages.

Little ones can splash at

the zero-entry beach featuring spray grounds and a water play-scape. Big kids can spread out in the waterscape for games, sports, and thrill rides on the giant plunge slides.

The lap pool with six swim lanes and two diving boards is perfect for exercise.

The covered pavilions, shaded lounge areas, and park concession are just what you need

when you are ready to relax.

The water park is located in Lions Club Park at 1800 Stan Schlueter Loop. It offers day, season, and family passes and is available for

special and private events including parties, reunions, and more.

Get ready for summer splashing at Lions Club Park!

www.killeentexas.gov/aquatics

Family Aquatics Center

Summer Season

May 25 - September 30

Daily Hours

Mon-Fri 11 am-6:30 pm Sat 10 am-6:30 pm Sun 1-6:30 pm

Daily Rates

Resident

3 & under	Free
4-16	\$5
17-54	\$7
55 & over	\$5

Non-resident

3 & under	Free
4-16	\$5
17-54	\$8
55 & over	\$5

Party Rentals Available

Call 501-8861 for details

LEMONADE DAY IS MAY 5TH

Lemonade Day is coming to the greater Killeen area Sunday, May 5. This nationwide event teaches kids skills they will need to be successful adults through a unique, experiential learning opportunity combining academics and life skills to teach the lessons of entrepreneurship.

Participants learn to set goals, develop business plans, establish budgets, seek investors, provide customer service, and ultimately give back to the community. Lemonade Day is the perfect opportunity to show kids we care and to train the next generation of entrepreneurs through a free, fun, and engaging activity.

Parents, teachers, family, and friends are encouraged to partner up with a future entrepreneur as a caring adult and watch the sparks of creativity fly. The first step is to register. Next, kids

will pick up a backpack filled with supplies to assist in their first business venture.

The City of Killeen, Killeen ISD, and title sponsors First National Bank Texas and Fort Hood National Bank are proud to bring Lemonade Day 2013 to our area for the fourth time.



We each have a role in making this a successful event whether as participants, mentors, or customers, so visit forthood.lemonadeday.org today to find out more about this great community project.

SPRAY & PLAY

The Junior Service League of Killeen Spray Pad at Long Branch Park is open for the season!



SUMMER NIGHTS

The annual Hot Summer Nights Concert and Movie Series has been announced and includes some big hits! It all starts May 31 with the Space Rockers playing your favorites from the 80s. Check out the full list for Fridays in June and July at www.killeentexas.gov/parks.